

(b) from about 0.5 to 8.0 wt. % based on the weight of the coal dust of one or more organic chemicals selected from the group consisting of functionalized starches[,] and mixtures of functionalized starches and copolymers of sodium acrylates and acrylamide [and mixtures thereof] reactive with said coal dust, and

(c) water.

Please cancel Claims 4 and 7 and 8.

11. (Twice Amended) They synthetic fuel composition according to Claim 10, where the functionalized starch is one or more polysaccharide resins consisting of a solution of a polysaccharide having a dextrose [equipment] equivalent between 0.1 and 100 wherein the polysaccharide has been chemically modified.

12. (Twice Amended) A method of making a synthetic fuel composition, comprising: mixing at least about 90 wt. % of coal dust with water and with one or more organic chemicals selected from the group consisting of functionalized starches[,] and mixtures of functionalized starches and copolymers of sodium acrylates and acrylamide [and mixtures thereof] reactive with said coal dust to form a composition; and compacting the composition; thereby forming the synthetic fuel composition.